

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OVER \$56K IN FINES AND REFUNDS FOR CONSUMERS FROM CALIFORNIA COMPANY

Columbia, SC... ...The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) has received an Order from the Administrative Law Court allowing them to require Rescue Debt, Inc. to distribute refunds for South Carolina consumers and pay administrative fines. The Honorable John D. Geathers issued an Order against the company for violating the South Carolina Consumer Credit Counseling Act. The Department is requiring the company to refund consumers and to pay a fine of \$56,500 for contract and solicitation violations.

Rescue Debt, Inc.'s delay in cooperating with the Judge's October 9th Order led to an independent investigation by the Department to recover the names of South Carolina consumers who had been wronged. The investigation also revealed that Rescue Debt, Inc. attempted to sell South Carolina contracts to another unlicensed entity. The Department recently obtained the names of consumers in the state and will proceed to enforce the ordered refunds from Rescue Debt, Inc.

If you believe you have been a victim of dishonest credit counseling practices or for more information, please contact the Public Information Division at 803.734.4190, toll free in SC at 1.800.922.1594 or online at www.sccconsumer.gov.

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.sccconsumer.gov.
